



# FACE Program Fact Sheet

## Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation

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## TWO FARMERS DIE AS A RESULT OF FAILURE TO TURN OFF MACHINES DURING REPAIR

### BACKGROUND

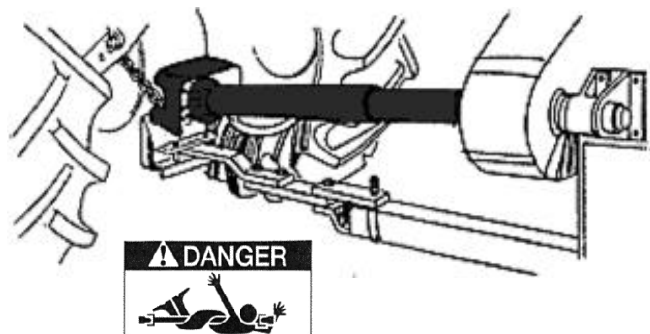
The Wisconsin Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program received reports of 91 fatal occupational injuries during 1999. Four of those occurred when farmers failed to turn off dangerous machinery during repair.

This fact sheet describes two incidents and requests that farm safety professionals and employers who use agricultural equipment bring the following recommendations to the attention of farm machine/equipment operators and their families.

### THE INCIDENTS

#### Incident #1

A 24-year-old male farmer died after becoming entangled in the unguarded rotating driveline shaft of a manure spreader. The spreader was connected to a tractor equipped with a power take-off (PTO), which powered the spreader driveline. The victim was working alone in the barnyard, replacing a bolt on the shaft. He apparently completed this task and was standing on ice-covered soil near the rotating driveline. He either slipped and fell onto the driveline or his clothing was caught and pulled by protruding parts of the rotating shaft. He was spun around the driveshaft, and portions of his clothing were entangled on the driveshaft and torn from his body.



#### Incident #2

A 56-year-old male farm worker died after being struck by a flywheel of a PTO-powered haybaler. He was lying on his side under the baler, oiling a chain, while the baler was operating. A flywheel for the bale tosser cycled and struck the victim on the top of his head.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

To prevent similar occurrences, farm machine/equipment operators should:

- disengage the PTO and stop the tractor engine before making repairs and adjustments or performing maintenance on the machines.
- install appropriate guards on PTO-driven machine parts.
- avoid wearing clothing that is loose-fitting or has loose ends that could be caught by moving machine parts.

**The Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, in agreement with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) conducts research on occupational fatalities. The Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program focuses on identifying factors that increase the risk of work-related fatal injuries. The Wisconsin FACE Program helps in the development and use of improved safety measures for preventing fatal work injuries.**

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# **PLEASE POST**

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**FACE information is produced and distributed to provide current, relevant education on methods to prevent severe work-related injuries.**

**If you have comments or questions, please call the FACE Project at 608/266-7298, or write:**

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